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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Summary of work in Chinatown, San Francisco, for the week ended August 27, 1904.

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue, under date of August 29:

Week ended August 27.

Buildings reinspected	308
Rooms	2, 388
Persons inspected	3, 295
Sick	8
Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary	11
Dead examined	6
Necropsies	1
Rats examined bacteriologically	33
Number showing pest infection	0
Places limed and disinfected	573
Blocks covered with Danysz virus and phosphorus poison	12
Times streets swept	3
Sewers flushed	18
Notices sent to abate plumbing nuisance	6
Plumbing nuisances abated	5
Undergoing abatement	9
Total number plumbing inspections	93

Diphtheria at St. Michael, Alaska.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Derbyshire, at Nome, reports, July 9, the appearance of diphtheria at St. Michael, in the vicinity of Nome. No particulars have been received. The disease was probably introduced from points on the Yukon River.

Correction of statement relative to smallpox in Liberty County, Ga.

AUGUST 17, 1904.

DR. WALTER WYMAN,

Surgeon-General Public Health and

Marine-Hospital Service, Washington.

SIR: My attention has been called to the fact that in a letter to Dr. W. W. Owens, of Savannah, Ga., bearing the date of February 12, 1904, I stated that 7 persons had recently died of smallpox in Liberty

County, this State, and that this statement was subsequently printed in the Public Health and Marine Hospital Reports. I write to say that this was an error, no person having died in this county, though there were many cases of this disease there during the winter. This mistake was a clerical one, I having intended to say that 7 persons had died in Decatur County.

Most respectfully,

H. F. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

(See Public Health Reports, February 26, 1904, page 315.)

Transactions on account of smallpox in northern Maine, Canadian border.

Report of sanitary work in the Madawaska region.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hammond reports, through Surgeon McIntosh, as follows:

Week ended August 20, 1904: Number of cases of smallpox under supervision, 11; of these, previously reported, 11; new cases, none; houses under quarantine, 2; persons vaccinated, 1; miles of territory covered, 85.

Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo, Tex.—Fumigation work at Brownsville—Antimosquito ordinance adopted at Brownsville and Matamoras.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Cock reports through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

BROWNSVILLE, TEX., *August 18, 1904.*

Since my last report the following work has been accomplished: Houses inspected, 351; barrels oiled, 546; cisterns oiled, 52; houses fumigated, 37, containing 68 rooms.

Recent rains have interfered to some extent with our fumigation work.

I would state that I regard Brownsville as the most unsanitary town in the State, but much good has been accomplished, and the city council and the citizens are fully aroused to the importance of the work and are assisting in many ways with surprising energy.

The city council passed the antimosquito ordinance, and it seems that they intend to vigorously enforce it.

I met the board of health in Matamoras, Mexico, on the 16th instant, and with the assistance of Governor Pedro Arguelles, who presided at the meeting, succeeded in having a similar order passed for the enforcement of sanitary work in that city. It had been rumored that Matamoras had a few cases of yellow fever, and the governor visited the city on a tour of investigation. I was unable to secure any evidence on which to base suspicion.

I have examined six cases in Brownsville which were reported to me as being suspicious, but none were yellow fever. I received the information yesterday and immediately went to work, fumigating the entire neighborhood. Other physicians here have confided to me that they are suspicious of the poorer classes, who seldom send for a doctor.

The city council and citizens are very anxious for general disinfection